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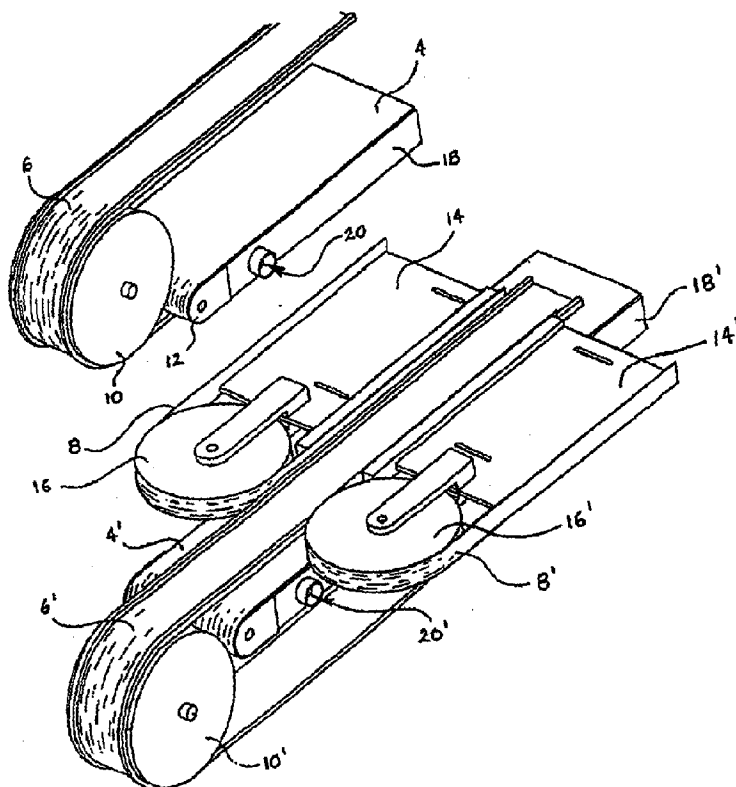
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(54) Title: CONTINUOUS FORMING SYSTEM UTILIZING UP TO SIX ENDLESS BELTS



(57) Abstract: A system for providing shape and/or surface features to a moldable material includes at least two first opposed flat endless belts (4, 4') spaced apart a first distance, with each having an inner surface and an outer surface. The system also includes at least two second opposed flat endless belts (8, 8') disposed substantially orthogonal to the first two opposed endless belts and spaced apart a second distance. A mold cavity (24) is defined at least in part by the inner surfaces of the at least two opposed flat endless belts. The system further includes a drive mechanism (12, 12') for imparting motion to at least two of the opposed flat endless belts.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : B29C 43/22 US CL : 264/41, 165, 167; 425/107, 329, 371 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 264/41, 46.2, 165, 167; 425/107, 193, 329, 371 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 529,535 A (SMITH) 20 November 1894 (20.11.1894), Figure 1, page 1, lines 50-101.	1,3,4,14,21,23,29,32,34
X	US 3,065,500 A (BERNER) 27 November 1962 (27.11.1962), Figures 1-3, column 2, lines 13-60.	1,3,9,14,17,21,23,27,29,32,34
X	US 3,890,077 A (HOLMAN) 17 June 1975 (17.06.1975), Figures 1, 5 and 7, column 2, lines 35-38, column 3, lines 1-60.	1,3-6,14,16,20,21,23-25,29,30,32,34-36
X	US 4,128,369 A (KEMERER et al.) 05 December 1978 (05.12.1978), Figures 23-24, column 1, lines 24-32, column 12, lines 41-45, column 13, lines 1-3, column 27, lines 1-33.	1-3,10-15,17-23,28,29,32-34,39
X	US 5,340,300 A (SAEKI et al.) 23 August 1994 (23.08.1994), Figures 2-5 and 13, column 4, lines 31-45.	1,3,9,14,16,17,21,23,27,29,32,34
X	US 3,917,774 A (SAGANE et al.) 04 November 1975 (04.11.1975), Figures 1, 2 and 13b, column 4, lines 8-16, column 5, lines 28-45, column 7, lines 6-20 and 55-65.	1,3-5,14,16,17,21,23,24,29,32,34,35

Y		2,6-13,15,18,19,22,25-28,30,31,33,36-39
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer James Mackey Telephone No. 571-272-1700 <i>J. Whitefield</i> <i>for.</i>

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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,700,495 A (KEMERER et al.) 23 December 1997 (23.12.1997), Figures 7 and 10, column 18, line 57 through column 20, line 67.	6- 8,10,25,26,28,30,31,3 6,37,39
Y	US 5,458,477 A (KEMERER et al.) 17 October 1995 (17.10.1995), Figure 2, column 11, lines 17-53.	6-8,25,26,30,31,36,37
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A	US 2,817,875 A (HARRIS et al.) 31 December 1957 (31.12.1957), Figures 1-7.	